



COTTONWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

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On Saturday December 12, 2015, all Verde Valley law enforcement agencies participated in the annual *Verde Shop with a Cop* event. This is an event where officers are paired with a child and they take them shopping at Wal-Mart for the holiday season. To start off the big day, Pepe's Cafe graciously hosted a delicious breakfast for the children and their law enforcement partner. After breakfast, everyone headed to the airport to pick up Santa, who flew in on a helicopter thanks to Guardian Air. Santa led the procession in Cottonwood Fire Departments fire truck ahead of law enforcement vehicles with full lights and sirens flashing and wailing to Wal-Mart. This year we had approximately 30 kids participate and each child received \$150.00 to shop for the holidays.



We would like to thank the officers from the following law enforcement agencies for participating in this year's *Verde Shop with a Cop*; Yavapai County Sheriff's Office, Clarkdale PD, Camp Verde Marshal's Office, Department of Public Safety, Yavapai Apache PD, State Parks, Forest Service, Sedona PD, AZ Rangers, GIITEM and Cottonwood PD. Most of the officers were big kids themselves that day. We also want to thank Pepe's Cafe for providing breakfast, Guardian Air, Civil Air Patrol for guiding Santa into

the airport, Mingus Union High School Cheerleaders and others for helping wrap presents, all of the volunteers who helped throughout the year during our fundraisers and those who helped during the big event – your help was greatly appreciated. Thanks to Madam Mayor Diane Joens and Vice Mayor Karen Pfeifer for taking time out of their busy schedules to come play for the day. Big thanks to Wal-Mart for allowing us to take over your store. This year Verde *Shop with a Cop* also received generous donations from AZ Rangers, Yavapai-Apache Nation, Sedona Masonic Lodge, Arizona Community Foundation of Yavapai County (grant), Yavapai Blue Knights, LaserLyte, Lawler Construction, County Bank, CK's Need a Lift, Ledbetter Law, Solar One Energy and numerous private donors. We couldn't have the success we have with Verde *Shop with a Cop* if it weren't for the donations.

We also want to extend a special thanks to Toys for Tots. Each year they provide toys for all of the children we receive applications for; whether the children are chosen or not AND for all of their siblings. And of course we cannot forget to thank Santa Claus for taking time out of his busy day to spend time with the children. Verde *Shop with a Cop* was very successful this year but only because of the generous people who live in the great communities of the Verde Valley, thank you.

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